

Old World News Flashed by Cable to the Times-Dispatch

NOTABLE SEASON SURE FOR LONDON

Social Merry-Go-Round Will Be Most Brilliant in Years.

MANY RIVAL HOSTESSES

Colonel Roosevelt Eagerly Sought for as the Real Social Lion.

BY CHARLES P. NORCROSS.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—Except for the threatened general election in June, London is assured of the most notable season of modern times, and in all the social merry-go-round the brightest and most brilliant functions will be those given by the dollar queens.

The rivalry between American hostesses for the season's pre-eminence, always acute, is this year sharper than ever. All are busy as bees. But the greatest trio of all is that made up of Mrs. F. J. Graham, sometimes of California; Mrs. William Leeds, who still maintains her enviable position; and Mrs. Joseph Stickney, who no longer since went to a function in a Paquin gown, the whole front of which fairly bristled with jewels.

How many tens of thousands of good American dollars these three ladies will contribute to the funds of London, and how many French dresses, furbelows, and, of course, ridiculous, but it will be something very extensive.

Roosevelt, the Hunter, Hunted. Close in the race for the honors of entertainers will be Mrs. Josephine B. Smith, who has recently secured a charming family seat.

Of course, the capture of Colonel Roosevelt as the lion of the day is everybody's aim. And among the fairer sex, the most notable of the season is Mrs. Anthony Drexel, and Mrs. French Vanderbilt, who is prepared to spend a fortune at her Brooks Street house.

Colonel Roosevelt will meet the King at a private audience at Buckingham Palace, but officially he will be presented at a levee at St. James Palace. Here, before the general company assembled, Ambassador Lord Granville, who at Forbes House will vie with Mrs. Anthony Drexel, and Mrs. French Vanderbilt, who is prepared to spend a fortune at her Brooks Street house.

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FOR DEEPER WATERWAY

White Star Atlantic Plan to Cost South-america \$100,000.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—The Southampton Harbor Board has had under consideration for some time past proposals for deepening Southampton water from thirty-two feet to thirty-five feet for the accommodation of the White Star liners, the Olympic and the Titanic, which, when completed, will make Southampton their home for the proposed Cherbourg and Transatlantic service. The cost of such deepening has been estimated at close to \$100,000. The board has not shown a readiness to defray the cost of the work, and has decided to ask assistance from the White Star Line, which is the owner of the docks, the London and South-western Railway Company.

CHURCH CUPOLA CRACKED

St. Petersburg Cathedral Gives Alarm to Architects.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] St. Petersburg, April 30.—The finest architectural monument in St. Petersburg is St. Isaac's Cathedral, begun under Nicholas I. in 1829. The architectural commission has now discovered that the cupola is cracked in several places, owing to the rotteness of the beams. The center of the church will now be partitioned off, lest pieces of the stucco work should fall down and produce a panic among the congregation, which, on great festivals, numbers 10,000 persons.

TURNED ADRIFT FROM HOSPITAL

Non-Roumanian Blind Are Driven Forth Helpless From Refuge.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Berlin, April 30.—Put not your trust in princes nor King and Queens, as foreign inhabitants of the Blind City founded and financed under the patronage of Queen Carmen Sylva of Roumania, have discovered by bitter experience.

The Queen started a home for the blind in a miniature town inhabited solely by the sightless, and gave it the name of Vatra Luminoasa. Some money was subscribed in Roumania; much in other countries. The Queen begged and borrowed money all over Europe to finance the project. The latter, a tiny town, nobles of recent creation owe their nobility to the money they subscribed to these funds. In Cologne the Queen borrowed through agents \$250,000 from a banking firm and used the word of the King as security.

Suddenly the King repudiated all connection with his wife's liabilities and issued a semi-public notification to the banks and money-lenders that Europe's ruler would not be responsible for the Queen's debts. There was a great scandal, and the Queen returned the \$250,000 to the Cologne banker with apologies. Finally the money was collected and the little town built and inaugurated as a refuge for the blind of all nations.

Eighty per cent of the cost was contributed outside Roumania, but now orders have been issued expelling from the town all non-Roumanians, turning them adrift without guidance. They are in desperate destitution. It appears that funds grew short, and it is noted that the Queen gave not a penny for the blind, but that she collected from others. The democratic papers of Roumania are attacking the Queen for her heartless conduct.

Advices from Russian sources leave no doubt that Russia is drifting back into revolution. The population is ripe for another bloody outbreak. These having an intimate knowledge of the country doubt whether the Roumanoff dynasty will weather the storm.

It is declared that the crash cannot be postponed beyond the fall of 1910. The Russian government feels secure in its military strength, and its policy seems calculated to provoke a revolution. The Catholics of Poland are made into martyrs, the Finns are goaded beyond endurance and the liberties guaranteed by the Czar's public pledges are trampled under foot for revolution; now the tide is turning and the most patient are sighing for energetic action by the extremists.

Harpies River Jordan. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Constantinople, April 30.—The waters of Jordan are to be exploited by a French company, which is to supply water there from the Harpries River. The whole of Palestine will be supplied with electricity for lighting, heating and cooking purposes. The Harpries River is situated at the falls between the "Waters of Merom" and the Lake of Galilee, where the river descends 700 feet.

Keir Hardie on Surface. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—Keir Hardie, the labor leader in Parliament, Wales, "I should not be astonished if within two years a bill for woman suffrage would be introduced in Parliament with the approval of all parties."

Berlin Invention Will Show If Man, Woman or Child Could Operate. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, April 30.—The latest in anti-burglar devices is a dynamo-metric apparatus, invented by a Frenchman.

The apparatus will register the expenditure of muscular effort used in a burglary, and will thus make it possible for the police to reconstruct with sufficient exactitude the scene during the burglary. The apparatus is so delicately adjusted that it is possible to discover whether a burglar was committed by a man, a woman or a child.

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ANOTHER PRINCE LOOKING FOR WIFE

Spanish-Italian Nobleman Coming to American Market.

AN HEIRESS IS WANTED

Suitor Neither Young Nor Handsome, but Well Fixed for Clothes.

BY VANCE THOMPSON.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, April 30.—Fired by the success of the Austrian Prince Miguel of Braganza, the husband of Miss Anita Stewart, another prince with royal blood in his veins goes to America next week in search of a wife.

This time it is the Spanish-Italian Prince Francisco del Drago, by courtesy he is called "prince" although, strictly speaking, that title belongs to his elder brother. His real title is Count D'Asoria. Of his royal blood there is no doubt. His mother was a daughter of Queen Maria Christina of Spain.

Prince del Drago is fifty-two years old. At this age he may not be able to marry an heiress of sweet sixteen, but when informed of the many hand-some widows on the American matrimonial market, Prince Francisco promptly took his decision. He also has before him the successful example of his brother, Prince Giovanni del Drago, who married the daughter of the late John D. Rockefeller, of New York, and her fortune of \$15,000,000, after having given another \$15,000,000 to her daughter, Mrs. Pauline Murray.

Prince del Drago has already been married, his wife having been a Belgian woman with title and names as long as his own, but this marriage was annulled by the Vatican in 1905. Prince del Drago is not handsome, but the fact that he has been married by the Paris Tailors makes him smart and quite presentable. He bears a scar on his forehead as a reminder of his duel with Signor Felchi, the Italian painter, who married Princess Don Carlos.

It is stated that Princess Giovanni del Drago furnishes the funds for this matrimonial campaign. The princess has taken up her residence in Paris, and lives at the Hotel de la Paix.

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has ever come to Paris. But why did he come during election week?

Bunau Varilla, the proprietor of La Matin, and unquestionably one of the most powerful men in France, has another opinion of Roosevelt. He told a correspondent:

"We had exactly the same kind of man here in France once, only our horseback rider lacked courage."

Monsieur Bunau Varilla referred in this subtle way to General Boulanger, who committed suicide in Brussels when, had he had Mr. Roosevelt's courage, he might have been Emperor of France.

The editorial writers of the French press seem to be undecided whether Colonel Roosevelt is the Caesar or Napoleon of the friendly republic over sea, but all have decided that he is one or the other. There is an almost absolute unanimity of French public opinion that President Roosevelt must "take hold of the United States and do something for it."

SCHOOL FOR SHOP GIRLS

Workers to Be Given Free Lessons in Department.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Berlin, April 30.—The thoroughness with which Germany goes in for technical education in every detail is revealed by the decision of the Association of Berlin Shopkeepers to inaugurate a course of training in manners and deportment for shopgirls. The shopkeepers maintain that good manners in their shopgirls are of immense value to them. The public business, and the municipal authorities have adopted this view of the case and have placed a public school building in the Alte Jacobstrasse at the disposal of the association.

"PAGEANTIS" THE LATEST

Pir Beerholm Tree to Exemplify the Rage in a Sumptuous Play.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—"Pageantis" has been the invention of the present, who is responsible for the epidemic of "dressing-up" that has raged in this country for the past few years. It has been written and produced by Sir Herbert Beerholm Tree, who will produce it at an early date on the stage of his Majesty's Theatre, with all due sumptuousness of scenery and costumes.

The central figure of the play will be Sir Francis Drake, and the drama will unfold itself in a series of splendid spectacles. The play is a pageant, only the actors will be professionals of high standing, and not amateurs in home-made costumes.

LAST VESPUCCI DIES

Countess Tabor Traced Her Descent from the Great Navigator.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Rome, April 30.—Countess Tabor, who has been the subject of much gossip, is the inventor of the present, who is responsible for the epidemic of "dressing-up" that has raged in this country for the past few years. It has been written and produced by Sir Herbert Beerholm Tree, who will produce it at an early date on the stage of his Majesty's Theatre, with all due sumptuousness of scenery and costumes.

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ENGLAND'S POLICE DOG

First to Be Put on Duty Is Named Nigger

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—England's first police dog has begun his duties at Clower, a rural district near London. The dog is named Nigger, and is the property of the Clower Rural District Council.

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60 LIBS TOGETHER, BUT WITH WRY FACE

Liberals Are Delighted, and Go for Recess in High Spirits.

FIGHT NOT YET OVER

Lords Not Likely to Capitulate Until Country Says They Must.

BY WILLIAM T. STEAD.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, April 30.—The Lords, with a very wry face, have gulped down the budget which they rejected in 1909. The Liberals are delighted, and have gone away for the recess in high spirits. Some are in such a fool's paradise that they imagine the Lords will accept the abolition of their veto without putting the country to the inconvenience of another election.

Why the Lords should capitulate at the first summons is not at present very obvious. There is always time enough to surrender, if they go to the country and are beaten again, they will be no worse off than they would be if they climbed down now, and there is always the off-chance that they might win. If Asquith could muzzle the wild man of the hour, the Liberal for the Lords would be very small, but this he cannot do.

Already Mr. Hardie, one of the most well-meaning, but injudicious of the Liberal leaders, has written a pamphlet, "The King's Speech," in which he declares that if the King refuses to make new peers with which to crush the old ones, democracy will rise and crush the crown and peers. This is exactly the kind of thing that will win votes by the thousands for the Tories.

Mr. Hardie's Unwise Threat. If there are many more speeches like that it is not the crown and peers who will be crushed; that fate will befall not only Mr. Hardie, but the ministry with whom he is apparently in alliance, for the Tory party would be the loser of such a decision. The Liberals would be a vote given against the King, God bless him.

When Asquith called on the King on Thursday the interview lasted only half an hour, and the King, who is a very busy man, was likely to precipitate matters. The King can, on occasions, hold his tongue. The Premier's time for tendering advice has not yet come. The King never argues with his ministers; he asks questions and receives replies.

He certainly will not pledge himself in advance, whether or not he will accept the advice or resignation of his Prime Minister until circumstances have called for such a decision. The ministers have won the first round, and are stronger now than they were when Parliament met.

Asquith's emphatic tribute to Lloyd-George has improved the popularity of the Premier. The opposition side Balfour remains where he was; Asquith Chamberlain has improved his position, and so has Mr. Prettymann. Among the Irish, Deakin has justified the confidence of those who see in him a future leader. Among the Laborites no fresh reputations have been made.

Wait for Roosevelt's Peace Talk. Roosevelt's Nobel prize is awaited with much anxiety. No matter what he may say to the pacifists, one thing is tolerably certain, he will not say what Andrew Carnegie said at the opening of the new building of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. He is now seventy-five years of age, and has attended every important sale for over fifty years.

Speaking of the price paid at the recent sale of the New York collection, it is the opinion that they were ridiculously high. He says Yerkes bought the whole collection for about \$400,000. He knew the commercial value of pictures and made hard bargains. Asquith, Corot's "Black and Blue Lights," this picture was sold in Paris for \$72,000, and it brought \$80,000 at the Yerkes sale.

Turner's "Fisherman" was offered by Mr. Sedelmayer de Rothschild in Paris for \$25,000. The price was considered too high and the picture refused. This picture was sold at the Yerkes sale for \$120,000. The Franz Hals "Portrait of a Woman" was sold for \$12,000. Mr. Sedelmayer de Rothschild's collection was not based upon the value of the paintings, but upon the competition of the millionaires.

But troubles never come singly. The son of a London tailor, D'Alby, the bogus prince who married that former belle of Boston, Miss Hunt, hearing of Mrs. Paine's prospective engagement to the Duke of Chouville, hints at having letters from her in his possession, and offers to sell them for \$10,000. He is now seventy-five years of age, and has attended every important sale for over fifty years.

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